

The Office of the Governor **Proclamation**

Executive Department State of Idaho State Capitol Boise

WHEREAS, Idaho has approximately 14,000 citizens living with an anaphylactic allergy; and

WHEREAS, anaphylaxis is a sudden, severe allergic reaction involving major organs in the body simultaneously which can cause death in a matter of minutes for severely allergic individuals; and

WHEREAS, Idahoans living with food allergy have to contend with improper or inadequate food labeling, and with the risk of cross-contamination when eating in public, either of which can lead to allergen exposures and potential anaphylactic episodes; and

WHEREAS, eight foods cause 90% of food allergy reactions – shellfish, fish, milk, eggs, nuts, peanuts, soy and wheat; and

WHEREAS, there is no cure for potentially fatal food allergies, and strict avoidance of the offending food is the only way to avoid a reaction; and

WHEREAS, food allergy and anaphylaxis are medical issues which impact a large number of Idahoans and educating the public of the risks others face is crucial to preventing severe allergic reactions;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, DIRK KEMPTHORNE, Governor of the State of Idaho, do hereby proclaim May10 through 16, 2004, to be

FOOD ALLERGY AWARENESS WEEK

in Idaho.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Idaho at the Capitol in Boise on this eighteenth day of March in the year of our Lord two-thousand and four and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred twenty-eighth and of the Statehood of Idaho the one hundred fourteenth.

DIRK KEMPTHORNE GOVERNOR

BEN YSURSA SECRETARY OF STATE